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QUESTION OF CYPRUS

Letter dated 15 March 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 14 March 1994 addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Osman Ertuğ, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex, which contains a letter dated 11 March 1994 sent to you by Mrs. Sûheyla Küçük, President of the Turkish Cypriot Women's Association, could be circulated as a document of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 54.

(Signed) Inal BATU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

LETTER DATED 14 MARCH 1994 FROM MR. OSMAN ERTUĞ
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to enclose herewith the copy of a letter dated 11 March 1994 addressed to you by Mrs. Süheyla Küçük, President of the Turkish Cypriot Women's Association, which is in response to a statement made by the Greek Cypriot delegate at the 6th meeting of the thirty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, held on 9 March 1994.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 54.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

Appendix

LETTER DATED 11 MARCH 1994 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

It has come to our knowledge that the Greek Cypriot delegation at the thirty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women has repeated the well-known Greek Cypriot allegations regarding "occupation" and "violation of human rights" in Cyprus and has levelled unfounded accusations against the Turkish Cypriot side in connection with a Greek Cypriot teacher, Eleni Foka, resident in Karpaz area of Northern Cyprus.

The Greek Cypriot delegate has alleged that the aforementioned Greek Cypriot teacher was "threatened" by the Turkish Cypriot authorities with expulsion. This is a blatant and deliberate misrepresentation of facts, as part of a campaign of defamation by the Greek Cypriots against the Turkish Cypriot side. There have been no threats of any kind directed at Eleni Foka or any other Greek Cypriot resident in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. In fact, this has also been established by the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) authorities in Cyprus, which have interviewed Eleni Foka in private.

The Turkish Cypriot Women's Association strongly condemns the persistent Greek Cypriot attempts to exploit the Cyprus issue at every international forum and to create artificial and phony issues in order to keep the issue alive. Such a policy is no doubt inconsistent with the letter and spirit of the confidence-building measures which are currently being discussed between the two sides. False propaganda and statements that engender hostility between the two sides will render the current exercise difficult to pursue.

At this critical stage of the proximity talks, there is urgent need for the Greek Cypriot side to manifest its good will and to show to the Turkish Cypriot side that it will pursue the path of reconciliation. The Turkish Cypriot people, whose human rights were continually violated by the Greek Cypriots during the period from 1963 to 1974, demands to see an end to the Greek Cypriot policies which undermine peace and stability in the island.

The Turkish Cypriot Women's Association would like to appeal to you to urge the Greek Cypriot side to discontinue its vilification campaign against the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in all its international forums.

(Signed) Süheyla KÜÇÜK
President